

What is claimed is:

1. A seat assembly (10) comprising:
 - a seat cushion (12) having laterally spaced side members (22, 24) and a front cross member (26) connected to and spanning between the side members (22, 24);
 - front legs (30, 32) pivotally coupled to the front cross member (26); and
 - a rod (22) connected at a first end (224) to a spaced side member and at a second end (226) to a front leg (30), wherein the seat cushion (12) is automatically laterally displaced relative to the front legs (30, 32) in response to pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) relative to the front legs (30, 32).
2. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 wherein the rod (222) is coupled at the first end to an outboard side member (24) and at the second end to an inboard front leg (30).
3. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 wherein the rod (222) is rotatably coupled at the first end (224) to the spaced side member (24) and rotatably coupled at the second end (226) to the front leg (30).
4. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 further including an abutment bracket (220) connected to the front cross member (26).
5. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 4 further including a biasing member (230) associated with the abutment bracket (228) and the front leg (30).
6. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 5 wherein the biasing member (230) is energized in compression for biasing the seat cushion (12) laterally outward with respect to the front legs (30, 32).

7. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 5 wherein the biasing member (230) is energized in tension for biasing the seat cushion (12) laterally inward with respect to the front legs (30, 32).

8. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 further including front brackets (33) attached to a floor of a vehicle, the front brackets (33) pivotally coupled to the front legs (30, 32).

9. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 8 further including front braces (80) attached to the front cross member (26) at a first end (86) and engaging slots (84) formed in the front brackets (33) at a second end (82).

10. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 9 further including a biasing member (88) associated with the front leg (30) and front brace (80) for maintaining the second end (82) of the brace (80) in engagement with the slot (84) formed in the front bracket (33).

11. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 9 wherein pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) relative to the front legs (30, 32) causes the front braces (80) to disengage from the slots (84) formed in the front brackets (33).

12. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 11 wherein further pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) after disengagement of the front braces (80) from the slots (84) formed in the front brackets (33) allows for positioning the seat assembly (10) in a forward stowed position within a recess formed in the floor of the vehicle.

13. The seat assembly (10) of Claim 1 further including rear legs (64, 66) pivotally coupled to the laterally spaced side members (22, 24).

14. A seat assembly (10) comprising:

a seat cushion (12) having laterally spaced side members (22, 24) and a front cross member (26) connected to and spanning between the side members (22, 24);

front legs (30, 32) pivotally coupled to the front cross member (26); and

a rod (222) connected at a first end (224) to a spaced side member (24) and at a second end (226) to a front leg (30), wherein pivotal movement of the seat cushion (12) to a forwardly dumped position translates to pivotal motion about the rod (222) resulting in an interaction of the spaced side member (24) and front leg (30) via the rod (222) for translating the seat cushion (12) laterally with respect to the front leg (30).